

AMENDMENT

In the Claims:

1. (Five times Amended) A bus system, comprising:
- (a) a plurality of bus elements, with each of the plurality of bus elements [selectively] making [a request] requests for access to at least one other bus element;
 - (b) a central unit having a plurality of bus inputs and a plurality of bus outputs, with the central unit selectively coupling at least one of the inputs to at least one of the outputs, the central unit providing for an arbitrated, point-to-point coupling of a particular one of the plurality of bus elements with the at least one other bus element;
 - (c) a first plurality of unidirectional point-to-point buses for coupling in a first direction the bus elements to the central unit bus inputs;
 - (d) a second plurality of unidirectional point-to-point buses for coupling in a second direction each output of the central unit to a respective bus element; and
 - (e) arbitration logic connected to the plurality of bus inputs of the central unit to which the first plural-

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